

THE INDEPENDENT
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Published Every Friday in the Year, by W. O. Saunders, at 505 E. Fearing St., Elizabeth City, Pasquotank County, North Carolina.

Subscription Rates. 1 year \$1.50; 8 months, \$1.00; 3 months, 50c

Entered as 2nd class matter at the postoffice at Elizabeth City, N. C., June 9, 1908

Represented in Norfolk, Va., by J. H. McLaughlin, office in Ledger Dispatch Bldg. Phone 25823.

VOL. XIV. FRIDAY, DEC. 30, 1921. NO. 718.

A GOOD SLOGAN

A GOOD SLOGAN for any business man to put on his program for the year 1922 is to be found in a statement given this newspaper this week by one of this city's younger and more progressive business men. O. F. Gilbert, proprietor of Mitchell's Department Store says that he attributes the success of his business this year to three facts. He says: "I worked harder, advertised more and sold on a lower margin of profit." There is the key to better business in 1922 for any one who will use it. Work harder, advertise more and avoid the profiteering itch. A survey of business generally in Elizabeth City at the close of this year will positively reveal that those merchants who have made the most of a bad year are those who have followed the Gilbert formula. And without advertising these would not have pulled thru as they have.

THE DIVINE IN MAN

I KNOW of no greater evidence of the divinity of man than the finished work of a high class symphony orchestra. It embodies and reflects every phase of the genius of man, both physically and spiritually, as no other creation of man does or can. The brute engineering of the pyramid of a Cheops, the fabrication of a Woolworth tower, the excavation of a Panama Canal or carrying a great railway system under a river into a city of five million souls are not the products of greater genius than that which fashioned a resonant fiddle from a crude slab of wood and strung it with the guts of a cat to give forth melodies to transport the souls of men. I know that humanity is not lost; I know that the souls of men are marching on; I know that our apparent gross materialism is not the master of human progress or the executioner of humanity's finer emotionalism; I know that we are not estranged from God and that bliss, beauty and harmony are achievable in this life—I know because I have heard the music of Bach, the music of Mozart, the music of Beethoven, the Music of Liszt, the music of Wagner and the music of Tchaikovsky played by the New York Philharmonic Society under the direction of Josef Strinsky.

PRIVILEGES MUST BE PAID FOR

A FRIGHTFUL example of what it may cost a man to neglect his fire insurance is presented in the fire of incendiary origin which destroyed a barn on the farm of J. J. Morris near Weaverville, Christmas Eve morning. The barn was used as a warehouse only and Mr. Morris alone carried a key to it. His stock was fed from another farm and no tenant or helper had access to the big barn in which Mr. Morris stored his surplus produce to hold for market. There was little possibility of the property catching fire from any act of negligence. But Jess Morris incurred the wrath of somebody. He found some stolen beans hid in the underbrush in his woods. He carried those beans to his barn, depriving a thief of his loot. And then the thief, enraged by his disappointment, is supposed to have fired the barn. One of the penalties of owning things is that a man must protect that which he owns. The ownership of property carries with it a man's obligation to himself, his family and society to safeguard that property. The most simple method of protection yet devised is an insurance policy. A man may pay insurance premiums all his life without having a fire, but that is the price he must pay for the privilege of owning things.

THOMAS WALTER BICKETT

THE fact of the uncertainty of life was again emphasized Tuesday morning of this week in the sudden death of Thomas Walter Bickett, former governor of North Carolina. The death of Governor Bickett was a profound shock to every one who knew him. So full of life, so full of fun, so full of fellowship, one never thought of Bickett dying. Death was for older men and Bickett would never grow old. But we are reminded again that death is no respecter of persons and one who lives intensely as Bickett lived may die suddenly as Bickett died. But he died beautifully. His last act was one of loving ministry to his splendid wife. Mrs. Bickett herself was ill. He had, with his own hands, prepared her evening meal, brought it to her bedside, and was chatting intimately with her when he was stricken.

Given something of the political cunning of a Lincoln and the ambition of a Woodrow Wilson T. W. Bickett might have gone down in history as the greatest of North Carolinians. He possessed all the human attributes that made Lincoln glorious and all the idealism that made Woodrow Wilson the idol in the earlier days of the late war. But Bickett was not ambitious. He showed that when in the midst of his term of office as governor he turned his back on the all powerful Baptist denomination in North Carolina and joined the Episcopal Church. No ambitious man would have done that. An ambitious man would have started a campaign to build a Baptist tabernacle and so strengthened his position as to have gotten a nomination for the United States Senate. But Bickett was not ambitious. There was very little in this life that he wanted for himself. He loved his wife, he loved his books, he loved his friends; and the loves that enriched his own life made him a lover of all mankind. He desired always to give the unfortunate a chance. It was his dream to see the landless tenants of North Carolina translated into landlords and citizens of the enduring type. He raised his voice often in behalf of the Negro and sought justice for that race. To those in prison he was inclined to say "Go thou and sin no more!" He became known as the Pardoning Governor. But what he desired above all things for his state was an equitable adjustment of the taxes of its citizens. He realized that the greatest progress of the people would be made thru better schools, better roads, better health measures and state efforts in behalf of a better rural life and better agriculture. He realized that these things were possible only thru taxation and that taxation would always be in disrepute until the burdens of taxation were equitably distributed, every citizen paying to the state in proportion to his exact wealth and ability to pay. The Revaluation Act of the Bickett Administration should stand as Thomas Walter Bickett's greatest achievement. The administration of that Act may fail, but the everlasting justice of it will remain a monument to the memory of the just and honest Bickett.

55,000 FARMERS TO CO-OPERATE

Farmers Seem Determined To Try Different Method of Selling

"There are now 55,000 members of co-operative marketing associations in North Carolina organized and organized, and the number is growing rapidly. These members are among the most substantial farmers and business and professional men having farming interests," says Dr. B. W. Kilgore, one of the leaders in the movement for co-operative marketing.

"Co-operative marketing has swept the country the last year and a half, extending from California to New England and covering the entire South, and is being applied to our main farm, fruit and vegetable crops and livestock and livestock products. In California, and some of the western states, co-operative marketing has been successfully used for from ten to twenty-five years, and more than half of the farm, fruit and vegetable crops of California were sold last year by co-operative associations. It is the greatest economic movement in our generation, and is succeeding."

"Farmers are determined to try a different method of selling what they grow, and the public is making up its mind to give co-operative marketing by farmers a fair trial. This is a big step forward toward a better system of selling for farmers."

Outstanding Happenings.
The movement has progressed very rapidly in the last few weeks in North Carolina and the surrounding states, among the outstanding happenings being the following:

1. The Kentucky-Burley Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association has been incorporated with a membership of 55,000, and right at 200,000,000 pounds of tobacco signed up for marketing through the association, which is 90 per cent of the crop. The association has elected its directors and is proceeding with its plans to sell this year's burley crop for its members in Kentucky, West Virginia, Indiana and Ohio.

2. The Tri-State Tobacco Growers' Co-operative Association for North and South Carolina and Virginia has secured more than its required number of signers, with fully 300,000,000 pounds of bright tobacco in the association, and this association will elect its directors and organize during January and February for the selling of next year's crop. The membership in the Tri-State Association is around 60,000 and the meaning of this association in the tobacco market will be realized when it is understood that the three states of North and South Carolina and Virginia produce nearly all of the bright tobacco of the United States.

3. Co-operative Associations for cotton in Oklahoma, Mississippi, Texas and Arizona have been organized and the crops of these states are being sold this year through the association with good results.

4. The North Carolina Cotton Growers' Co-operative Association has a membership of around 25,000 growers, with nearly 400,000 bales already signed. The minimum requirements of the contract is for 200,000 bales, practically double the minimum having already been secured, and the North Carolina Association will be organized in January for the sale of next year's crop.

5. South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Arkansas, and other cotton growing states are organizing, which with the ones already organized, grow from 85 to 90 per cent of the cotton of the United States, and already there has been organized the American Cotton Growers' Exchange as an overhead selling agency for all of the states when organized.

6. The Peanut Growers' Exchange for North Carolina and Virginia completed its organization in August with a membership of around 6,000 and is now engaged in selling the peanuts of the growers of these two main states growing commercial peanuts.

"Our three main money crops—tobacco, cotton and peanuts—have already been organized, or the organization is assured for the selling of these crops through co-operative selling associations next year. In addition to these, associations are being formed for different sections of the State to sell sweet and Irish potatoes, cantaloupes and melons, and peaches through farmers' selling associations."

"This progress marks a tremendous step forward, and what is equally as good or better is that public opinion is rapidly coming to the conclusion that it wants to see this new method of selling by farmers succeed."

Source of Mosquito's Humming.
There is an apparatus for a long time overlooked or neglected by the investigators, at the base of the mosquito's wings, whereby the characteristic humming of that insect may be produced. The species examined is the anopheles maculipennis and the apparatus consists of a slightly movable bar provided with a series of well-marked teeth, which, as the wings are raised and lowered, rasp across a series of ridges.—Brooklyn Eagle.

The Shortest Chapter?
A London newspaper trying to find the novel with the shortest chapter concluded that the prize went to Bulwer-Lytton, in whose "What Will He Do With It?" the chapter headed "Penetration" consists of only one word "Penetration," but an English critic has announced that the shortest chapter in existence are in Laurence Sterne's "Tristram Shandy," for in chapters 17 and 19 Sterne put nothing but dashes.

Vertebrae in the Neck.
All mammals have the same number of vertebrae in their necks—seven. Those seen in a tiger's neck, but very few in a horse's. Yet there they are—seven.



Anita Stewart in Playthings of Destiny

In "Playthings of Destiny" which takes the screen at the Alkrama Theatre Tuesday and Wednesday of next week, this popular screen star is featured in the strongest picture in which she has ever appeared. The scenes of the piece carry one from the frozen vastnesses of the far north to the smiling tropics and the audience will see the unique presentation of a Northern blizzard and a tropical tornado all in one picture.

HYDE DELIGHTED WITH ITS NEW RAILROAD

Once Winter Home of Canadian Wild Goose Now Open to Home Seekers

The citizenship of Hyde county are beginning to realize the benefits of a railroad recently completed through its own territory for the first time in history—the New Holland, Highport and Mount Vernon, which extends from Wenona to New Holland, connecting with the Norfolk Southern railroad at Wenona daily, except Sunday, for all points via Mackey's, says J. W. Talley in the News & Observer.

The town of New Holland is situated in the southern edge of what was once Mattamuskeet Lake, which, together with its surrounding territory, is often referred to now as "The Mattamuskeet Eden" of North Carolina.

The road was built and is owned by the North Carolina Farms Company which is an off-shoot of the R. L. Dol-lins Company, of Columbus Ohio. About nine miles of this line is built on the bottom of the lake which is now dry by means of canals and a quarter million dollar pumping plant at New Holland to which the water flows by gravity into Pamlico Sound, and where a tall smoke stack towers high into the air from the large boilers, warning the thousands of Canadian wild geese that their former historic resort during winter months will disappear as farms are opened.

What was once a broad expanse of water is now a field of waving grass on rich, black soil capable of producing cotton stalks with 200 bolls, 2-year corn stalks 18 feet high, beans, potatoes, etc., accordingly, vegetables growing here 12 to 15 days earlier than on the Chesapeake Bay. Hyde County soil, with climate favorably influenced by the Gulf Stream in winter and the ocean breezes in summer, teeming with wild game and seafood, is exceedingly desirable as a place for both the man of small and large means in which to live.

The drainage district around New Holland is made up of about 120,000 acres of land, including the lake bed, and thousands of cattle are roaming thereon, pending effectiveness of the stock law. The master financial minds of such men as Dwight Harrison and W. G. Benham, the successful agricultural progress of D. H. Kirwan and the untiring, analytic and constructive mind of Jno. R. Wilbanks, all of Columbus, Ohio, have made great things possible for Hyde and Washington counties, as well as for certain counties near Green Cove Springs, Fla., where they have going wonderful industries of a like and varied nature.

The casual observer finds at New Holland a modern hotel building of Dutch design and stucco finish open the year through, a nice depot, and railroad offices, an electric lighting system, many cottages, a large brick store building, a mammoth pumping station and a large high tank for a water system to be completed in the spring. It seems not yet known just when opening sales of small and large farms, dwelling and business lots will be on, but it is known that many inquiries for such are coming in and that through service, including Pullman and private car parties, can now be arranged for between all points, in order to afford the homeseeker and would-be investor an opportunity to locate in a land of soil-wealth, seafood, wild game and a clever people.

More Men Carry Fans.
The folding fan came originally from Japan. In the East fans were carried by both sexes and were much used at important ceremonies. The Japanese had war fans, colored bright red, and there are some fans which have a quilted pattern and are introduced to England in Henry VIII's time, coming from Italy, to which it had been introduced by Catherine de Medici.

Sealing Wax Etiquette.
In the days when all correspondence was sealed there was etiquette about the use of sealing wax. Royalty would give some favorite courtier the sole right to use a certain colored wax, and officers of the state would each have distinguishing colors, in much the same way as staff officers of the army wear colored "tabs" nowadays.

Leather Used for Fertilizer.
The greater part of the scrap leather from the New England shoe factories is shipped to the south, where it is used for fertilizer.

SAYS RAT CRUSADERS ARE WRONG IN THEORY

Rat Exterminator Only Get The Males, Giving Females Better Chance To Breed

Northeastern North Carolina farmers wrestling with the rat problem can get some enlightening information from George Jennison, an English scientist who has made an exhaustive study of the rat. This Englishman says ordinary methods of the extermination fail utterly because we kill mostly male rats.

According to this authority, the usual wholesale and indiscriminate slaughter of rats is merely improving living conditions for the survivors, whose progeny in less than a year will be as populous as before. There is only one way to rid the world of rats, says this man, and that is to appeal to biological laws, to upset the numerical proportions between the sexes and then leave the males to destroy their own race.

"When one realizes the enormous fecundity of rats—a fecundity so great that four males and six females, given sufficient food, will increase to 170,000 females and 120,000 males within two years—it becomes apparent that hit-or-miss methods will never work. You can't kill them all by human efforts and if you let a single pair escape you will have presently the same swarms as before."

"These rat crusaders are all wrong. As everybody knows, the male rat is the bolder, the one who roves abroad recklessly, and he is the one who is caught in these indiscriminate attacks. This decrease in the males means more food and more quiet for the females who, undisturbed, breed prolifically and soon restore the number."

"Denmark's experience proves this completely. Denmark began in 1907 the policy of the indiscriminate killing of rats. She had a most elaborate and efficient system. In 1907 she killed 134,000 rats, the vast majority of whom were males. But eight years later, with the system still in force, she killed 139,000 rats! She had made no headway whatever. To be sure, she killed only 98,000 last year, but that decrease—as she admits herself—is due to the food famine conditions prevailing there during the war and after."

"The only scientific course is to turn your back resolutely on this indiscriminate slaughter and deliberately upset the balance of the sexes. Rat poison should be forbidden. Likewise shooting rats, or catching them in spring traps that kill them. The thing to do is to catch them alive in traps or trap rooms, examine them, destroy the females and turn the males loose."

"That may sound like a fantastic suggestion, but every experienced English game keeper follows exactly the same procedure when he wants to increase or decrease game on a preserve. Ordinarily there are, as we know, two male rats to every three females. If you disturb this balance, so that there are two males to every female, you destroy the race, first by setting the males against each other and secondly by forcing them to harry the females in the breeding season."

Engines Use Third of Mined Coal.
About one-third of all the coal mined in the United States is required to keep the country's 65,000 locomotives going.

All Privacy Goes.
If that X-ray contraption for taking pictures through walls works, the gold fish won't have much on us for privacy.—Minneapolis Tribune.

Life's Minor Worries.
Frequently a woman worries a great deal over the question of calling on an other woman who doesn't care in the least whether she calls or not.—Boston Transcript.

Curious Currency.
On Rennell Island, the least visited, in the Pacific, the only currency consists of the teeth of flying foxes; the island is surrounded by walls of coral limestone over 300 feet high.

Another Vision Dispelled.
"Wouldn't you like to see an old-fashioned comic opera with a chorus of merry villagers?" "No, it would be too untrue to life. Everybody seems to think that in order to be happy he must move into town."

THE MAJOR LIKES IT

Major E. Woodhouse, of Grandy, back from the special session of the General Assembly, where he functioned as Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms of the Lower House, says he likes his job fine and two thirds of the members of the General Assembly have assured him that he will be honored with the same post at another session. Major Woodhouse says he would like nothing better than holding the job for life, unless they would make his Sergeant-at-Arms and be done with it.

How One Woman Paid

Harriet and the Piper

By Kathleen Norris

A striking and "different" story, one that is as exceptional in the fascination it holds for the reader as it is out of the ordinary in its treatment.

The talented author of "The Story of Julia Page," "Sisters" and other novels, has written another charming, wholesome story which grips the heart in a manner characteristic of all her tales. A vivid, pulsating, human document. To be printed as a serial in these columns.

Do Not Miss the Opening Chapter!

Intangible Sign.
As a general thing, when a man doesn't ask his wife what she does with the money he gives her it is a sign that he doesn't give her any.—Galveston News.

Things About Movies.
The movies says he likes motion pictures because the girls can talk but without getting into arguments about whether to say "dramma" or "dramma."

Wonders Seen by the Naked Eye.
The eye, without aid of the telescope, can locate stars and comets that are brighter than what the astronomer calls 6th magnitude. Each magnitude is two and a half times as bright as the next lower one.

There is more big news in THE INDEPENDENT once a week than in the average daily six days a week.

NORFOLK MARKETS

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 29, 1921.
Items not quoted were not sold to-day and the Food Administration prohibits quotations other than actual sales.

Eggs	50c
Hens	25c
Chickens	25c
Chickens under 1-4 lbs. not wanted	
Roosters	15c
Turkeys, live	50c
Geese, dressed	35c
Ducks, dressed	35c
Ducks, live	25c
New Sweet Potatoes	
Yams	\$2.50 to \$2.75
Yellow	\$2.25 to \$2.50
Dressed Hogs	12c to 13c
The quotation of 12c to 15c for dressed pork last week was erroneous. The quotation should have been 12c to 13c.	

Phone 23501

The Woman's Wear Store.



Now Is The Time

To buy that Coat, Suit or Dress at a real saving.

We have some wonderful styles and values in these garments that we must unload. They are priced for quick action. You get the benefit.

Come down and look them over.

Winter weather has just begun.

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The Confession of a Woman Who Married Once for Love, and Once Again To Forget Love

Splendid drama with backgrounds of the Frozen North and the Tropical South, an Arctic blizzard and a Jamaican tornado. Anita Stewart supported by big cast including—

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A PICTURE REPLETE WITH THRILLS AND HUMAN INTEREST

Alkrama Theatre

Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 3rd & 4th